

ABSTRACT

A wireless home communications network is provided. A digital cordless telephone base unit serves as the hub of the network. The base unit implements a cordless telephone communications protocol incorporating multiple-access features. Telephone calls can be placed on the PSTN through the base unit with a cordless telephone handset. Various other digital electronic devices, such as a home computer, laptop computer, television appliance, portable display tablet, refrigerator with integrated digital display, and PDA, can also use a cordless telephone transceiver to establish wireless data communication links with the base unit. These digital electronic devices can utilize the communication links with the base unit for a variety of functions, including Internet access, email, and grocery list maintenance. Such devices may also include audio input and output capabilities, such that they can also be used for voice telephony via the PSTN.

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